

INTO IT
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EAT&DRINK
COVERAGE

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red
eye

Tuesday
DECEMBER 29, 2015

★ **FREE** ★
A Chicago Tribune
publication



OVER IT
TACO JOINTS

OVER IT
TIKI DRINKS



OVER IT
BRUSSELS
SPROUTS



INTO IT
VERMOUTH

OVER IT
MIXOLOGISTS



INTO IT
HOTEL BARS

INTO IT
BREWERY
CONCEPTS



Into it, over it

CHICAGO FOOD AND DRINK TRENDS WE'RE STILL LOVING
AND ONES WE WANT LEFT BEHIND IN 2015 PAGES 10-11

INTO IT
INDIAN FOOD



INTO IT
DELIVERY APPS



OVER IT
STEAKHOUSES



Uptick in attic apartments **3**

Get home safe on NYE **4**

Under-the-radar sports stories **7**



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3-DAY FORECAST



TUESDAY

40 31

Gross



WEDNESDAY

34 28

Grosser



THURSDAY

28 21

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Keeping to the code

An attic apartment, if compliant with zoning codes, must meet a long list of requirements in order to be legal. According to the Chicago Building Code, some of the requirements include having two exits or the entire building must have sprinklers. Also:

- » Ceilings generally must be 8 feet, and as much as half of the room can be 7 feet, but any area less than 5 feet is not counted as part of the room.
- » The minimum size of a room to be considered living space is 70 square feet; a room smaller than 70 square feet is considered a closet.
- » The unit also must have its own kitchen and bath with hot and cold water.



Nate King in his attic apartment
E. JASON WAMBSGANS/TRIBUNE

THE **RISE** OF THE ATTIC APARTMENT

By Grace Wong | CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Nate King, 23, came to Chicago in search of an adventure. Timothy Englert, 25, wanted to pursue a career in improv.

From the same small town in New Hampshire, the two moved out of their parents' homes and stuffed their belongings into Englert's Hyundai Sonata last spring hoping for new opportunities.

The only problem was neither of them had a job, and neither had a place to live.

"A lot of the places fell through when they found out that we didn't have jobs," Englert said. "You're a leper if you don't have a job."

With assistance from a local realty company, they signed a lease in Logan Square. The price was right, but it's a steep climb to get to their unit. Like a growing number of people, they settled on an attic apartment.

As the demand for apartments has increased since the Great Recession, economists say, more landlords are converting unused spaces

such as attics and basements to accommodate tenants. A growing number of demographically diverse people are choosing to rent, and some are even willing to turn a blind eye to illegally converted units in favor of an affordable place to live in a hip neighborhood.

"There's been a surge in attic apartments," said Karla Mina, residential real estate broker with Coldwell Banker. "The Millennials can't afford to buy because they're graduating and don't have jobs, and they don't qualify for a loan."

Englert and King pay \$1,200 for their two-bedroom, one-bath apartment. Utilities are included.

"It was hard to tell from the pictures that it was an attic apartment, but the first thing I noticed was the number of stairs I had to walk up," King said with a chuckle. "... I wasn't disappointed or upset. It was just like, 'All right, we're on the top floor. Time to build up our calf muscles.'"

Now that people are recovering from the

recession, Millennials are more likely to "choose the Starbucks and live in an attic" than "have a nice apartment and no Starbucks," said Allen Sanderson, a University of Chicago economist. The other option would be moving back in with their parents, but location often becomes their top priority.

Attics—and apartment rentals in general—are attractive not just to young people. A recent study by the Joint Center for Housing Studies of Harvard University found that rental rates are also on the rise among Gen Xers and baby boomers.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau Housing Vacancy Survey, in the past 10 years there has been the largest increase in renting over any 10-year period since 1965, with a total of 42.6 million renters in 2015, 8.5 million more than the 34.1 million in 2005.

For Englert and King, their attic apartment was a great landing pad. But it doesn't meet all of the city's current zoning requirements.

THE DIGIT

727

That's how many violations were issued regarding illegal conversions this year, the highest in the past five years, according to the Chicago Department of Buildings. In 2010, there were 417 violations.

With only a single door in and out of the apartment and no sprinkler, there is a potential risk of being trapped in the apartment in the event of a fire.

"It kind of bothers me, like they could install a fire escape at one of our windows," King said. "But it's nothing I'm going to call my landlord about. For me personally, it's just not high up on my priority list. And plus, who knows, the rent we pay is pretty good, and it's all we can afford right now, so how would [adding a fire escape] affect the rent?"

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There's no denying that, for many, New Year's Eve will be a night drowned in alcohol, questionable decisions and exuberant outbursts that will reach their peak when the clock strikes midnight. If you haven't put much thought into how you'll get yourself to and from party town safely ...

well, don't despair. I have.

Here are some tips on how to get to and from your New Year's Eve revelries in one piece:

FREE BALLIN' ... ER, RIDES

Starting at 10 p.m. Thursday until 4 a.m. Friday, you can hitch a ride on a CTA train or bus—free of charge.

"The free rides promote safety and responsible drinking, making CTA the designated driver," transit agency spokesman Jeff Tolman said.

Each year, 150,000 CTA bus and train rides are taken on New Year's Eve between 10 p.m. and 4 a.m., according to the CTA.

Previously, the CTA offered "Penny Rides" on New Year's Eve, but the current agreement with MillerCoors, which is in its fourth year of sponsorship, covers the cost of all the rides taken and related operating costs.

Fun fact: The CTA has been offering free or penny rides on New Year's Eve since 1985.

RIDESHARE TO THE RESCUE

If you've had anything to drink at that New Year's Eve soiree, you should NOT get behind the wheel of a car. As long as you haven't lost your phone amidst the merriment (we've all been there), why not order an Uber or Lyft to take you home after midnight?

"We expect the greatest demand and highest prices from 12:30 a.m. until 2:30 a.m.,"

Uber spokeswoman Brooke Anderson said. "For the most affordable ride, riders should request right when the ball drops or wait until later for prices to return to normal."

New Year's Eve is Uber's busiest night of the year, and the company expects to complete millions of trips worldwide—which means that surge pricing shouldn't come as a surprise to you.

Pro tip: Head to the festivities early—it's OK, fashionably early is TOTALLY in right now.

Or, if you have a friend who's leaving the festivities when you are, split the fare so you don't feel like you're breaking the bank. Taking a Lyft Line or UberPool is another great way to save money. If you refuse to pay the few extra bucks and would rather wait, you can sign up for surge drop notifications.

Some more friendly reminders include: Be respectful of your rideshare driver, aka don't be a dick. If you're going to be sick, save yourself the cleanup fee and do it before you enter or after you exit the vehicle. If you leave something in the back of the car, get in contact with your driver ASAP.

DON'T DRINK AND DIVVY

This probably goes without saying, but just like a car, if you've been drinking, don't even think about driving. Maneuvering a Divvy bike through Chicago's streets can be tough enough; don't add inebriation to the mix.

Don't forget: Chicago is hosting its first ever large-scale New Year's Eve celebration. Tens of thousands of partygoers are expected to pack downtown for Chi-Town Rising. Needless to say, that could cause more traffic than expected and lead to more pedestrians wandering the streets. So please, have yourself a ball but be safe about it. See you all in 2016!

"THE TRANSIT DIARIES" RUNS ONLINE EVERY MONDAY AND IN REDEYE'S PRINT EDITION EVERY TUESDAY ON PAGE 4. IF YOU HAVE A STORY YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE, EMAIL US AT RED-EYE@REDEYETCHICAGO.COM WITH "TRANSIT DIARIES" IN THE SUBJECT LINE.



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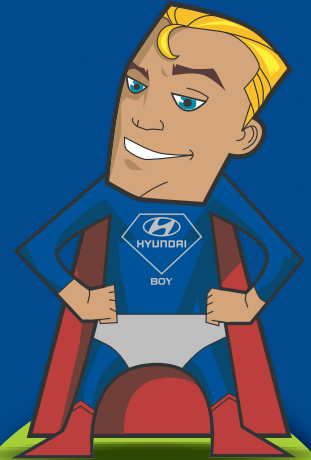
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UNDERRATED SPORTS STORIES OF 2015

RedEye staff members share their favorite underrated stories of 2015, from the uplifting to the anger-inducing.



Joe Maddon
GETTY IMAGES FILE

Ramble-rousers

For a city starving for a winner in college basketball and/or football, Loyola's men's volleyball team has quietly risen above the sport's traditional powerhouses to win two straight national championships. And although reigning national player of the year Thomas Jaeschke has moved on, the Ramblers are loaded for next year. —CHRIS SOSA

Welcome aboard, Joe

Disclaimer: Players are the primary reason any team wins championships, period. That said, there's no question Joe Maddon's leadership lifted the Cubs another level in 2015. More important, it's difficult to win a World Series with a bad manager; good thing the Cubs have nothing to worry about on that front. —C.S.

Stop mocking Jay

Jay Cutler is finally the quarterback the Bears need him to be: one who doesn't lose games for them. Well, at the very least he's proved to be more asset than liability. Although his

numbers this season are similar to years past (with the notable exception of his interceptions), his decision-making has improved and he's turned the ball over only 13 times; he had a mind-boggling 24 giveaways in 2014. —C.S.

All about Steve

After like 500 consecutive wins and Steph Curry making basketball seem roughly as challenging as checking your email, the phrase "NBA-dominating Golden State Warriors" has begun to feel natural. But it wasn't that long ago that the defending champs were a hot-shooting team destined to be a No. 6 seed in the playoffs, maybe upset a team or two but hit a wall after that. In his first season as coach, former Bull Steve Kerr elevated something good to greatness—and, like Curry, just because he made it look easy doesn't mean it is. —MATT PAIS

Pain in the grass

Before the U.S. women's soccer team won the World Cup, they were a plaintiff in a lawsuit that sought to hold the tournament on grass fields

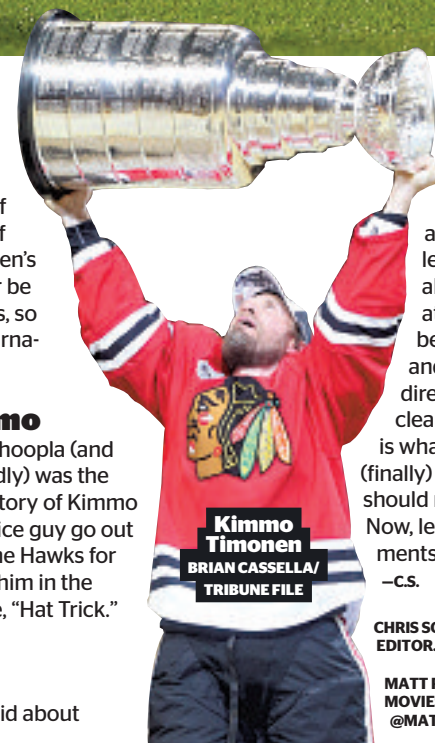
as opposed to artificial turf. That never happened, but the American team did force the cancellation of a friendly earlier this month because of poor conditions—in Hawaii of all places. Bottom line, the men's World Cup would never, ever be played on anything but grass, so why should the women's tournament be any different? —C.S.

Here you go, Kimmo

Buried in all the Blackhawks hoopla (and there was a lot of it, deservedly) was the "Oh yeah, he's retired now" story of Kimmo Timonen. So great to see a nice guy go out on top, even if he was with the Hawks for only a few months. Look for him in the team's newly released movie, "Hat Trick." —C.S.

Starting over

If even some of the things said about



Kimmo Timonen
BRIAN CASSELLA/
TRIBUNE FILE

former Illinois football coach Tim Beckman are true, a change should have taken place years ago. Unfortunately, allegations of coaching abuse in other sports at the university have been prevalent as well, and Illinois fired its athletic director in one of its house-cleaning moves. Winning is what gets fans excited, but (finally) doing the right thing should never be overlooked. Now, let's hope the improvements don't end there. —C.S.

CHRIS SOSA IS REDEYE'S SPORTS EDITOR. @REDEYESPORTSCHI

MATT PAIS IS REDEYE'S MUSIC AND MOVIES EDITOR. @MATTPAIS

fiveonfive

EEEEEEK!

Panelists were not allowed to use the letter "E" today. Prepositions were omitted.



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1	How will Year 2 of the College Football Playoff be different from the first?	Bama wins it all!	It won't.	First touchdown wins!	UHHHHH... (This no "e" thing is a bitch.)	No. Ohio. Booyah!
2	What's the Chicago equivalent of Paul Rudd visiting the Chiefs locker room dressed as Santa Claus?	Craig Robinson, Blackhawks room, rocking a Kwanzaa fit.	Ditka as Rudolph.	Kristin Cavallari in a hot dog suit.	V. Vaughn as tooth fairy.	V. Vaughn visiting Blackhawks in a tooth fairy outfit.
3	Who would win a dab-off among Chicago athletes?	Bobby Portis. Mad dabbing man.	Hossa.	Kris Bryant? I don't know what dabbing is.	Hossa.	Bulls' Jimmy B.
4	What's the perfect drink to have with bowl games?	Drinks including liquor.	Cognac.	Warm milk.	Vino!	A cocktail in a fishbowl.
5	Explain the Bears' 5-3 road record this season.	That road trip lovin'.	John Fox can coach!	Starwood points.	Shocking.	Jay C. kills it not in Chicago. You can go now.

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THE DIGIT

3 Three of the past five Big Ten men's basketball players of the year were seniors. Conference play opens Wednesday, with Illinois hosting Michigan and Northwestern heading to Nebraska.



Julius Peppers
GETTY IMAGES

Packers deny PED allegations

Three Green Bay Packers, including former Bear Julius Peppers, strongly denied any ties to performance-enhancing drugs after they were named in a report by Al Jazeera on doping. "It's completely erroneous and I think it's irresponsible journalism, in my opinion," Peppers said. "I'm subject to the same steroid and drug-testing policy as everybody else, so I don't understand how I could be linked to something like this."

THE MOUTHWATCH

"I HAVE A LOT OF PERSONAL THOUGHTS THAT REALLY ARE PERSONAL TO ME. ... I FULLY SUPPORT PEYTON. ... TRUTHFULLY, I DON'T PUT MUCH INTO ANYTHING [REGARDING THE ALLEGATIONS]."

—New England quarterback **Tom Brady**, to WEEI radio, on accusations that Peyton Manning used HGH to recover from an injury



Tom Brady
GETTY IMAGES

STOP. WATCH.

Tuesday's must-see event in sports

Blackhawks at Arizona | 8 p.m. CSN

After a mini-reunion with Kris Versteeg and Joakim Nordstrom on Sunday, there will be bro-hugs between the Hawks and Antoine Vermette on Tuesday. And an end to the Hawks' two-game losing streak, if they're lucky.

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TRENDS & DEAD ENDS

The best and worst food and booze crazes of 2015

By Heather Schroering and Morgan Olsen | REDEYE

By the end of last year, we were raving about ramen, raw bars and ingenious cocktail names. While it's safe to say those trends are still having a moment, 2015 brought a slew of unexpected movements to Chicago's restaurant and bar scene. Of course, there are also a few trends we're ready to retire alongside bacon and kale. Here are the crazes we'd like to see die hard and live long in 2016.

DIE HARD

Taco joints: Oh, is it a taco because you slapped a tortilla around a deep-fried compost pile of food? Enough is enough. Don't ruin this for us. —H.S.

The mixologist: We needed mixologists to show us the way in 2015. They elevated our cocktail IQ from vodka sodas to rum swizzles and taught us to care about unique ingredients. I think most of us would agree we're better for it. But in the New Year, I hope we can get back to the good ol' bartender who won't roll his or her eyes when asked what a shrub is. —M.O.

Steakhouses: It was the year of the nouveau steakhouse as Chicago became home to STK, Swift & Sons, Prime & Provisions, Boeufhaus, Rural Society and more. I get it; this is a meat and potatoes kind of town, but we've hit our quota for the next decade in my opinion. —M.O.

Neo-dive bars: I have a sneaking suspicion that this trend is going to spill into 2016 like a stale PBR kicked over at your New Year's Eve party. While these establishments may not call themselves what I refer to as "neo-dives," they're easily recognizable by any combination of wood-paneled walls, linoleum floors, useless tchotchkes plucked from vintage bazaars (dust left on in some cases) and beer memorabilia. —H.S.

Brussels sprouts: Look, I love Brussels sprouts just as much as the next girl. I've eaten them shredded, fried, raw and topped with a shower of bacon bits. But in 2016, I hope we can back away from sprouts and experiment with some different veggies: romanesco, celeriac or sunchoke. My one exception is with AMK Kitchen Bar. (Please don't ever do away with that Brussels sprout salad with red cabbage, carrots, fresno peppers, scallions, bacon and shallots. Thanks.) —M.O.

Tiki drinks: Rum punch after rum punch, I was repeatedly disappointed by the resurgence of Polynesian-themed menus. Sorry, Gilligan, if Paul McGee (Lost Lake) hasn't touched it, just give me an old fashioned. —H.S.

LONG LIVE

Vermouth: Despite popular belief that fortified wines are for old ladies, I've been stoked on vermouth all year (but maybe it's my drunk alter ego Gam Gam talking). Bom Bolla, still the best bar that opened this year, turned me onto the ethereal herbal essences of vermouth on tap, and I'm itching to see more of that here, especially with the sad news that Bom Bolla may be shutting its



DryHop Brewers
MICHAEL TERCHA/TRIBUNE FILE

doors forever. Earlier this year, there was national buzz about a vermouth bar called Artemisia by Annemarie Sagoi, formerly of The Dawson, coming to Chicago. Fingers crossed. —H.S.

Fermentation: Move over, pickling. We embraced funky fermented foods this year at Izakaya Mita, Fat Rice, Sink Swim and more. From chili prawns with fermented

black beans to salty ika shiokara (fermented calamari), this trend should stick around a while longer. —M.O.

Indian food: A recent trip to India left me feeling disappointed in Chicago for its lack of true Indian cuisine south of Devon Avenue. Pub Royale, which opened this summer, is a good start. But if you ever tried a dosa, which is basically a cross between a crepe and a

Chicken Tikka Kati roll at Pub Royale
HILARY HIGGINS FILE PHOTO FOR REDEYE



Atxa Rojo vermouth at Bom Bolla
HILARY HIGGINS FILE PHOTO FOR REDEYE

burrito, you'd also be curious why this craze hasn't really caught on. —H.S.

Appetite for apps: This year, we graduated from GrubHub and embraced Uber Eats, Postmates, Foxtrot, Sprig, Door Dash, Caviar and countless other food and booze delivery apps. From healthy dinners to lavish lunches—and everything in between—I'm so impressed with how far delivery has come. Here's hoping those apps stay strong in the New Year. —M.O.

Brewery concepts: DryHop Brewers owner Greg Shuff had the right idea about expanding his empire with Corridor Brewery & Provisions, a farmhouse-focused brewpub that opened earlier this year. If dreams come true, brewery concepts will become just as common as restaurant and bar concepts, which means beers brewed in smaller batches allow for some funky fresh, creative ales. —H.S.

Hotel bars: Who would have guessed that we'd be going ape[bleep] for hotel bars in 2015? Not me. Between the Broken Shaker inside the Freehand Chicago and the Chicago Athletic Association Hotel's numerous bars and restaurants, we were spoiled with gorgeous spaces and fantastic craft cocktails. And we didn't even have to stay the night. —M.O.

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5 BOOKS TO INSPIRE A CREATIVE SPARK IN THE NEW YEAR

By Alison Bowen | CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The arrival of New Year's Day can be a time to channel new energy, creativity and ideas.

Putting pen to paper—scribbling, drawing, jotting—can help us spur that part of our brains.

Ayse Birsel, whose book “Design the Life You Love: A Step-By-Step Guide to Building a Meaningful Future” (Ten Speed Press) helps readers rethink life through writing and drawing, said such creative approaches can offer new ways to brainstorm.

“It’s almost like you’ve multiplied your ability to express yourself,” Birsel said. “It’s about thinking about our life differently.”

Letting our minds wander, or ponder, in unconventional ways can offer different paths to goals and dreams. “If you can visualize the life you love, the one that you want to have, you’re so much closer to making it happen,” Birsel said.

The arrival of a new year is a great time to get reinvigorated—and whether that’s through a new hobby, a daily drawing meditation or a total rearrangement of your life, these books have it covered.



MICHAEL TERCHA/TRIBUNE

FOR LIFE PLOTTING **Design the Life You Love: A Step-By-Step Guide to Building a Meaningful Future**

by Ayse Birsel, Ten Speed Press, \$19.99

“Your life is your most important project,” Ayse Birsel writes in her book, “Design the Life You Love: A Step-By-Step Guide to Building a Meaningful Future.” Everybody’s life can get over-run with obstacles presented by time restrictions, age and/or money. Birsel challenges readers to seek creative solutions to molding the life they want via four steps: deconstruction, point of view, reconstruction, expression. Birsel, who co-founded the New York design firm Birsel + Seck, opens with a congratulations to the reader for thinking proactively: “You are courageous.” “Design the Life You Love” is the product of Birsel’s employing her own creative process: She put it on paper, tested it with friends, offered it as a workshop, then eventually published this book. Just when the process starts to get heavy, Birsel reminds the reader—with a drawing of a cute, tiny rabbit—to be playful while pondering.

FOR LONG-TERM BRAINSTORMING **Q&A a Day for Creatives**

Potter Style, \$16.95

Perhaps you want a multiyear commitment to self-improvement. Consider “Q&A a Day for Creatives.” The philosophy is founded on the idea that a ritual daily drawing can keep your brain sharp. With a simple design, it has four years’ worth of pages, each with a one-question prompt. Questions range from “New Year’s resolutions? Draw one thing you’d like to achieve this year” to this December challenge: “Create a holiday gift-wrap pattern that suits you and your feelings about the season.” A grid of four empty boxes allows whatever artistic form seems best—for example, pen, crayons, watercolor, collage. From the “Q&A a Day” series, this one targets visual creativity but promises to be appropriate for all skill levels. It hopes that over the four years, the doodles will offer some type of perspective.

FOR A NEW HOBBY **Hand-Lettering for Everyone: A Creative Workbook**

by Cristina Vanko, Perigee, \$15.95

“Hand-Lettering for Everyone: A Creative Workbook” aims to recapture the care around cursive. Designer and illustrator Cristina Vanko, the book’s author, explains how hand-lettering is different from typography, handwriting and calligraphy. Its opening request: “Draw a hand-lettered portrait of yourself.” If that seems intimidating, the cheerleading in the introduction includes this bit of wisdom: “Everyone doubts their creativity every once in a while, but remember this: you are creative. The truth is that some people choose to exercise their creativity more than others. The ability is in you, and we’re going to find it!” Vanko takes clear and contagious delight in explaining minutiae, like shape names for letter forms, from ampersand to descender. Step by step, with types and a chance to try them, it plants the seed of excitement around lettering, from monograms to a name on your coffee cup.

FOR GRATITUDE **Instant Happy Journal: 365 Days of Inspiration, Gratitude, and Joy**

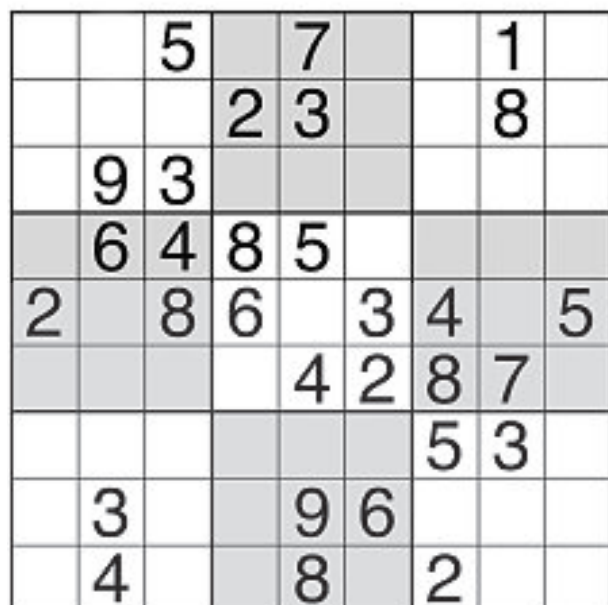
by Karen Salmansohn, Ten Speed Press, \$16.99

“Instant Happy Journal: 365 Days of Inspiration, Gratitude, and Joy” by Karen Salmansohn offers prompts to inspire a daily dose of gratitude. Whether a scientific fact, question or quote, the goal is to realize more joyful moments in daily life. Hopefully, you begin the day with a positive intention and end the day with grateful reflection. Prompts range from “Reframe a story from your day so that failure = wisdom” to “What does the weekend of a successful person look like?” Salmansohn uses the same prompts with her family, she writes, like a poster reading, “Something awesome is going to happen today. I can’t wait to see what it will be.” Dates are blank, so you can toss them in at your leisure.

FOR INSPIRATION **Do One Thing Every Day That Inspires You: A Creativity Journal**

By Robie Rogge and Dian G. Smith, Crown Publishing Group, \$12.95

The new year can be a time to search for inspiration, and Robie Rogge and Dian G. Smith hope to feed that spark with their book “Do One Thing Every Day That Inspires You: A Creativity Journal.” The authors want readers to allow space for epiphanies. The daily wisdom comes from sources as varied as artists, architects and actors. It starts with a quote from Henri Matisse: “Creativity takes courage.” They intend to push journalers to the edge or even outside of a creative comfort zone, with suggestions like making a cubist drawing of something in a bag or writing a myth of a constellation.



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆



MONDAY'S SOLUTIONS

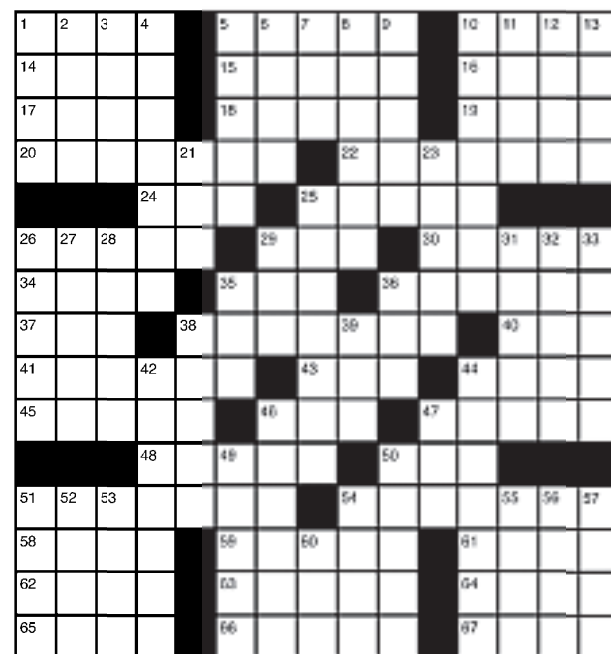


ACROSS

- 1 At loose _; unsettled and upset
- 5 Actor's award
- 10 Vegan fare
- 14 Oaf
- 15 San Antonio's biggest tourist attraction
- 16 Lofly poems
- 17 Wear a long face
- 18 House cat
- 19 Learn by _; memorize
- 20 Only roughly outlined
- 22 Peon
- 24 Twelfth-graders: abbr.
- 25 Actress Hunt
- 26 Metal mixture
- 29 Passing craze
- 30 Leaning
- 34 Caramel-topped custard
- 35 Engine additive
- 36 Irish accent
- 37 Children's running game
- 38 Uneasy
- 40 _ Vegas
- 41 Come forth
- 43 Flying mammal
- 44 Praise highly
- 45 More unusual
- 46 Diving bird
- 47 In a bad mood
- 48 Minimum
- 50 Enemy
- 51 Window covers
- 54 Like an outstanding bill
- 58 Hatfields or McCoy's
- 59 Capital of Afghanistan
- 61 Twofold
- 62 Dad's sister
- 63 Roaring beasts
- 64 Secure with a key
- 65 New York team
- 66 Thrill
- 67 Watches

DOWN

- 1 Shade trees
- 2 Breakfast _; kitchen recess
- 3 Hoodwink



- 4 Cowboy's hat
- 5 Pledges
- 6 Murder
- 7 Taxi
- 8 Sauntered
- 9 Regal
- 10 Blue Jays' home
- 11 Stench
- 12 Celebration
- 13 Consumer
- 21 Weep
- 23 Carries
- 25 Pricey fish
- 26 Run _; chase
- 27 Camel's smaller cousin
- 28 Beer
- 29 Repair
- 31 House of snow
- 32 Island feasts
- 33 Examinations
- 35 "Come _ come all"
- 36 However
- 38 Say "Amen!"
- 39 Furniture wood
- 42 Gives in
- 44 Sewing machine pedal
- 45 Attack
- 47 Playfully shy
- 49 Leg joint
- 50 Insincere
- 51 Congame
- 52 Board game
- 53 Carry on
- 54 Football kick
- 55 Floating object
- 56 Frilly trimming
- 57 Antlered critters
- 60 Deadly crusher



BRAIN CANDY

- » In their first year of life, baby blue whales gain 200 pounds every day.
- » Chewing gum for roughly 18 hours burns approximately 200 calories.
- » The hook-nosed snake farts to ward off predators.
- » People with aphantasia are unable to mentally picture images.

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THINK BEFORE YOU SHOOT "THE LIFESTYLE"

With the release of Think Before You Shoot 6, Chicago native and award winning screenwriter Anthony J. Sturdivant teamed up w/ Will Gates and Open World Films to deliver yet another powerful message. Now six films in, Anthony has decided to focus on how certain lifestyles can influence people into being attracted by guns. To view short films 1-5 and to stay updated for the release of his sixth anti-violence short film coming in January 2016 visit www.TB4YS.com.



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'GAME OF THRONES' WINS. *again*



The HBO show is once again the most pirated TV series of the year. According to **ew.com**, TorrentFreak said there were 14.4 million illegal downloads of the show's Season 5 finale. The piracy tracking site also confirmed to EW that "GoT" was by far the most downloaded show overall for the year.



The doctor is in

Hey, not that Doctor. We wrote about "Doctor Who" in Monday's edition. But Entertainment Weekly gave readers their first look at Marvel's Doctor Strange, played by Benedict Cumberbatch. The movie, about a doctor who is injured in a car accident and discovers the hidden world of magic and alternate dimensions, is set to be released Nov. 4, 2016. Magical indeed.

THE QUOTE

“It's too bad I'm not gay, 'cause I'd get the flyest bitches.”

—Leslie Jones, to the New Yorker. According to **newyorker.com**, there is speculation about Jones' sexuality, but her stand-up act includes bits about finding a man. Jones added, "I speak for the lonely bitches."



THE DIGIT

50 MILLION

That's how many times The Beatles catalog was played in its first 48 hours of release, according to **time.com**. All 224 songs from the band's studio albums were made available Dec. 24 to nine online streaming sites.

The Beatles perform on the "Ed Sullivan Show" in New York on Feb. 9, 1964. **AP FILE PHOTO**

WHAT?!

2016 marks a special year. It will be the 20th anniversary of the Spice Girls, and **Mel B** (Scary Spice) has hinted that there might be a reunion. "To be serious, it is our 20th anniversary this year and it would be rude not to celebrate, so hopefully something will be happening pretty soon," she said in an interview on Alan Carr's New Year's Eve special, according to Time. We want it, and we want it now.



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